

Survey on next PT uniform coming soon

By John Hoellwarth Staff writer

Marines on a PT run could soon be wearing a new jacket and trousers whose design could be suggested through a survey of rank-and-file Marines. — Sgt. Enrique S. Diaz / Marine Corps

The look and feel of the next physical training uniform in development will depend on the input of the Marines who will eventually wear it, Marine Corps Systems Command officials say.

The command hopes to publish a survey on its Web site by the end of next week that will solicit input from all active and Reserve Marines about the design of a new jacket and trouser intended for wear in cold weather, said SysCom spokeswoman Portia Blunt.

Blunt said the Corps wants its new PT gear to be useful as a marketing tool, meaning anyone who passes a platoon of Marines in a formation run should be able to distinguish them from other services immediately.

But whether this means adopting a jacket with the word "Marines" emblazoned across the chest or a gigantic eagle, globe and anchor on the back is something the Corps wants to let rank-and-file leathernecks decide for themselves.

"We're trying to make sure those features are what Marines want, so we're going to ask them so we can build those requirements around their needs," Blunt said. "We're looking to reach as many Marines as possible. We want them to understand that their input is paramount to getting them what they want."

In November, Commandant Gen. James Conway tasked SysCom with updating the PT uniform, saying it should look more like the Army's.